



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

North, et al.

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Commissioner For Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sirs:

AMENDMENT RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Official Action mailed November 10, 2003 (Paper No. 9), Applicants thank the Examiner for allowance of Claims 10-17. However, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of remaining claims in view of the following amendments and the comments set forth below.

Amendments to the Specification begin on Page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on Page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 12 of this paper.